

WHEREAS, It is deemed desirable to have a study made first to determine what changes, if any, in the structure or form of the County government should be made to best satisfy these needs and to prepare, if possible, specific recommendations as to the actual content of any modification of the present structure or of the new instrument of government; now, therefore

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 215A be and it is hereby added to the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County (1957 Edition, being Article 13 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Harford County," subtitle "County Commissioners," to follow immediately after Section 215 thereof, and to read as follows:

215A.

(a) *The Harford County Governmental Study Commission is hereby created for the purpose of studying and making recommendations concerning the structure or form of the government of Harford County. The Commission shall be composed of fifteen (15) persons who shall serve without compensation. Commission members shall be selected and appointed by the joint action of the Board of County Commissioners and the State Senator and members of the House of Delegates elected from the county. One of the persons so selected shall be designated by the appointing authorities as Chairman of the Commission. In appointing the members of the Commission, the appointing authorities shall endeavor to select those whose devotion to the County and its people, whose knowledge of government and sense of historical perspective and whose education and experience especially equip them for membership on the Commission and will assure that the Commission reflects the several interests and regions of the County. In addition to the fifteen (15) members herein provided, the County Commissioners, State Senator and members of the House of Delegates shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Commission and render advisory assistance thereto.*

(b) *The Commission shall examine the existing structure and form of county government in light of present and future needs of the people of Harford County, giving due consideration to the prospective growth of the County and to the character and nature of such growth. It shall meet and hold hearings as often as may be necessary to accomplish this purpose. It shall assemble such data and obtain such technical advisory services as may be needed. ~~It may recommend to the County Commissioners that a part-time or full-time research assistant be employed to assist it in the discharge of its duties.~~ WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IT MAY OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF THE BUREAU OF GOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AND SUCH OTHER TECHNICAL OR ADVISORY SERVICES AS MAY BE NEEDED, INCLUDING A PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME RESEARCH ASSISTANT. The Commission shall consider and make recommendations concerning all proposals for change in the structure of county government including revision of the County Commissioner system, adoption of charter form of government, code home rule and any other legal form of government.*